CLAIMS

1. A method for interconnecting a Multiplex Section Shared Protection ring network with a Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network in a Dual Node and Bridge & Swicth architecture through a primary interconnection node and a secondary interconnection node connected by an optical-fiber span, said primary interconnection node comprising means for performing a Drop & Continue operation and a Service Selector for each circuit,

wherein the method comprises the step of:

closing said Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network through the Service Selector of the primary node of the Multiplex Section Shared Protection ring network.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of closing said Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network through the Service Selector of the primary node comprises the steps, carried out in the primary interconnection node, of:

receiving a signal entering the Multiplex Section Shared Protection ring network, dropping it towards said Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network and continuing it towards said secondary interconnection node by utilizing an optical fiber span connecting said primary and secondary nodes;

selecting one signal, by means of said Service Selector, between

a signal coming from said Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network and directly entering the primary node and

a signal coming from said Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network, passed through the secondary node, and entering the primary node by traveling down an optical-fiber span that connects the primary and secondary nodes; and

sending said signal that has been selected by the Service Selector to the destination node of the Multiplex Section Shared Protection ring network.

3. A network element for interconnecting a Multiplex Section Shared Protection ring network and a Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network in a Dual Node and Bridge & Switch architecture, said node comprising a Service Selector for each circuit, wherein said Service Selector

selects one signal between:

a signal coming from said Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network and directly entering the primary node, and

a signal coming from said Subnetwork Connection Protection ring network, passed through said secondary node, and entering said primary node by traveling down an optical-fiber span that connects the primary and secondary nodes, and

sends said selected signal to the destination node of the Multiplex Section Shared Protection ring network.

4. A computer program comprising code means adapted to perform all the steps of claims 1 and 2, when said program is run on a computer.

5. A computer-readable medium having a program recorded thereon, said computer-readable medium comprising code means adapted to perform all the steps of claims 1 and 2 when said program is run on a computer.